Quest

APR-JUN 2003

ISSUE NUMBER 56

◆ KDN PP 6387/11/2003 ◆ ISSN 1394-9349 ◆ West Malaysia RM2.50 ◆ East Malaysia RM3.00

THE GATEWAY TO BETTER ENGLISH

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* English Through Songs: *Don't Know Why* by Norah Jones
* English Around the World: *As I was Saying ...*
* Comprehension: *Sounder*
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* Computers: *Know Our Discs*
* Sports Profile: *Ronaldo*
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Brain Teasers, Idioms, Jokes, Games, Teenfile, Students' Corner, Penpals and many more!

ISSN 1394-9349

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THINK SMART! STAY AHEAD! WITH QUEST!

Improve Children's Living Conditions

The World Health Organisation has called for urgent action to minimise environmental hazards which it says kill five million children every year, mainly in poor countries.

The WHO Director-General, Gro Harlem Brundtland, said the biggest threats to children's health lurked in the very places which should be safest such as the home, school and community.

The organisation said the main dangers were from air pollution caused by dirty household fuel, lack of safe drinking water and poor sanitation.

Simple measures to improve children's living conditions could prevent the acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and malaria which killed many children worldwide, said the WHO.

Simple and inexpensive initiatives include cleanliness, improved ventilation in the home, protection against mosquitos and regulating traffic and speed limits.

This Magazine is mine
By right divine
And if it goes astray
I'll call you kind
My desk to find
And put it safe away

My Name:.....

My Class:.....

My Teacher:.....

My Best Friend:.....

My School:.....

My Motto This Year is:.....

My Hero:.....

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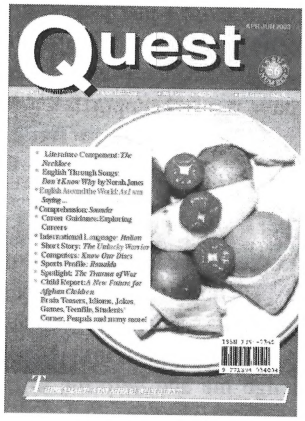
Established since 1989



Simplify Your Diet, Pg 35

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QUEST is published four times a year (Jan/Feb/Mar, Apr/May/Jun, Jul/Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov/Dec).

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QUEST READING GUIDE

★ Low vocabulary

★★ Intermediate

★★★ Advanced

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FROM YOU to Us...

QUEST is an interesting magazine with an ideal combination of education, entertainment and humour. The first time I saw QUEST (Issue Number 47) I fell in love with it. Since that issue QUEST has been my favourite magazine. I hope that you will publish some exercises on science and mathematics. Thank you.

Kamilah Mohd Alwai
SM Sains Sultan Mahmud
Terengganu

QUEST is the best magazine I have ever read. I like the section on International Language. It is fun learning different languages. Good luck, QUEST. Adios.

Hemashini Sivanesan
SMK Convent Sitiawan
Perak

Science and mathematics are now taught in English in Standard One, Form One and other stages. I would like to suggest that QUEST publish a new corner for science and mathematics so that the Form 1 students can learn more about both subjects as they will improve in these subjects and get better marks in the examination.

Jing Rui
Perak

QUEST has really improved my English since I started reading it two years ago.

Nanthini
SMK Tunku Besar Tampin
Negeri Sembilan

I started reading QUEST since I was in Form 1. After reading QUEST, my English really improved.

I suggest answers be given for QUEST Crossword after the contest in the following issue because some of us want to know the answers. By the way, QUEST Crossword is very challenging. I like it a lot because it is very hard to solve. The Word Target Contest is also quite fun too. Keep up the good work and best wishes.

Denise Ting
SMK Convent Sitiawan
Perak

I have been reading QUEST since Form Two. It's such an interesting educational magazine. It is a marvellous magazine for all students to improve their English. Although I have completed SPM examination now, I am still buying QUEST. I know QUEST will help me to improve my English. I hope QUEST will come out every month. Congratulations, QUEST. You make English fun and interesting to learn.

Hashimah Che Ismail
Terengganu

**Hey*! It is a great job inserting Junior QUEST. Who knows I might use it for my future kids! I just love you guys. It's really helpful having 'International Language'. Keep up the good work. You have my full support!

Teslyn Tan Ai Lin
Perak

I started reading QUEST when I came across the magazine on my brother's table. I find it very interesting especially the section ' English through Songs'. The exciting activities challenge me and help me to master the English language.

Sanjay Narayanan
SMK Sultan Yahya Petra (1)
Kelantan

I started reading QUEST a year ago, and I really like the magazine. It has lots of interesting corners. I was delighted when I saw the International Language corner. QUEST not only helps me to improve my English, but it also guides me in many ways. Here is a suggestion. Why not have a corner on self-improvement or even a section on unexplained phenomena? All the best and thanks!

Charlene Chew Shao Lynn
SM Tsung Tsin
Sabah

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*Thank you, readers, for your letters. QUEST would also like to thank all the Principals and teachers who encourage their students to read QUEST. – **Ed.***

QUEST welcomes letters and suggestions from readers. The best letter receives a prize worth RM10.00. Letters marked * will each receive a complimentary issue of QUEST. You may express your opinion on any article published in QUEST. Keep your letters short. Please address your correspondence to:

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The Necklace

In this issue we will take a look at the short story *The Necklace* written by Guy de Maupassant, a well-known French classic writer. *The Necklace* is an interesting and thought provoking story which not only offers an insight into human character and behaviour but also contains valuable lessons in life.

Summary of Plot

Mathilde is unhappy with her life and marriage to an ordinary clerk, Loisel. The Loisels receive an invitation from the Minister of Public Instruction to attend a ball at the Ministry. Mathilde is not happy because she claims she has no dress or jewellery to wear to the gown. Mathilde convinces her husband to buy her a new dress and she borrows a diamond necklace from Madame Forestier. Mathilde goes to the ball and enjoys herself and the attention she receives from everyone. When Mathilde returns home from the ball, she discovers that the necklace is missing. Loisel looks for the necklace everywhere but fails to find it. The Loisels look for a similar necklace and buy it using their life savings and by borrowing some money. They become poor and work very hard to repay all their debts. Many years later, Mathilde meets Madame Forrestier by chance. Mathilde finds out that the necklace she had borrowed and lost was an imitation one.

Setting

The story in *The Necklace* is set in France in the 19th century. Among the places mentioned in the story are the as follows;

1) The Ministry of Public Instruction where Loisel works as a clerk.

2) The Palace of the Ministry of Public Instruction where the party or ball was held.

3) The Rue des Martyrs, Paris where Loisel and Mathilde lived before they lost the necklace.

4) A garret under the roof which is an attic rented by the Loisels after they had lost the necklace.

5) The Seine which is the place where night cabs can be found.

6) The Palais Royal which is a place where real jewellery is sold.

7) The Champs Elysees which is a park where one can relax and take walks.

Main Issues

The story highlights how sometimes trying to live beyond our means can cause terrible pain and misery. Mathilde, though born into a middle-class family, believes that her beauty deserves a higher social class and status. Therefore, she does not appreciate her husband or his good and loving nature. She longs to be rich and famous and to dress in the finest clothes. Mathilde learns a lesson the hard way when she loses the necklace that Madame Forrestier lends her for the Public Instruction Ministry ball. The Loisels lead a poor and miserable life as they work hard to earn enough money to replace the lost necklace. In the end, all their hard work is for nothing as Mathilde discovers that the necklace was actually an imitation one which only cost four hundred francs and not an expensive diamond necklace that they had thought it was.

Characters

Mathilde Loisel

Before the loss of the necklace

Mathilde is described as being young, pretty and charming. Her beauty makes her vain, selfish and self-centred. She complains about not having beautiful gowns and jewellery and does not appreciate what she does have – a good and kind husband. She is a materialistic woman. She hates her poor and humble lifestyle and often dreams of being rich and living in a palace with beautiful possessions all around her. She is also a spoilt woman who throws tantrums and wants her husband to give in to her demands all the time.

After the loss of the necklace

Mathilde's physical appearance changed drastically. She looked old, haggard and plain. She was no longer beautiful as she once was before. Her hair was frowsy and her hands were not dainty and pretty anymore but coarse and red as a result of doing hard work. She appeared strong, hard and rough not soft, gentle and dainty as before. She even spoke loudly the way the low class women spoke unlike her soft, lady like manner of speaking before the loss of the necklace.

Despite her poverty stricken life, Mathilde changed for the better. She became responsible, hardworking, thrifty and willing to endure hardship. She stopped daydreaming about a luxurious life. She began to appreciate her husband's goodness and did not complain or throw tantrums anymore. Instead, she accepted the suffering in her life.

Monsieur Loisel

Loisel is Mathilde's husband who works as a clerk at the Ministry of Public Instruction. Loisel's character is the same throughout the story. He is a kind, caring, responsible and simple man. He is a loving and patient husband who tries his best to please his wife and make her happy. When Mathilde lost the necklace, he did not blame her or accuse her of carelessness. Instead, he patiently went out on foot to retrace the entire route to see whether he could the necklace while Mathilde sits and feels sorry for herself at home. When he failed to locate the missing necklace, Loisel took on a second job in the evenings as an accounts keeper and a third job as a manuscript copier late

at night to make enough money to buy a new necklace.

Moral Values

The Necklace is an interesting short story which teaches us some valuable lessons in life. Firstly, it teaches us to learn to be contented with what we have and not complain about what we don't have. We must not be materialistic and think of having a lot of money and material possessions all the time. Instead, we must try to be a more compassionate and kind human being. We must also not think that we are superior or better than anyone. We must also always be honest and truthful at all times. Finally, we have to work hard and be diligent instead of just day dreaming or fantasising if we want to achieve our goals in life.

Exercise

Read the following extract from *The Necklace* and answer the questions that follow.

"There," said he, "there is something for you." She tore the paper quickly and drew out a printed card which bore these words:

The Minister of Public Instruction and Madame Georges Ramponneau request the honour of M. and Madame Loisel's company at the Palace of the Ministry on Monday evening, January 18th.

Instead of being delighted, as her husband had hoped, she threw the invitation on the table crossly, muttering, "What do you wish me to do with that?"

1. a. Why was Madame Loisel not happy with the invitation she had received?
   A. Because she had no money
   B. Because she had no suitable gown to wear for the occasion
   C. Because she wanted to buy a piece of jewellery
   D. Because she did not know the people who invited her

   b. When Madame Loisel mutters "What do you wish me to do with that?" what is the tone of this question?
   A. Enquiring C. Worried
   B. Annoyed D. Frightened

   (2 marks)

2. Read the extract from the short story *The Necklace* below and answer the question that follows, basing your answer on your knowledge of the whole story.

"Of me! How so?"
"Do you remember that diamond necklace you lent me to wear at the ministerial ball?"
"Yes. Well?"
"Well, I lost it."
"What do you mean? You brought it back."

Based on the information in the extract, briefly describe what happened after the above conversation.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(3 marks)

Answers on page 38

Tricky Endings

...er ...ar ...or ...re ...ure ...-able ...ible???

It is easy to get confused with the endings of some words because they sound so similar. Some words just have to be learnt. With others there are some useful tips to help you.

Suffixes like '-er, -or, -ar, -re and -ure' sound similar. It is difficult to know which to choose. There are no rules, but there are some helpful hints.

Remember -or is usually used when the word means 'someone who'. For example, 'A visit*or* is someone who visits.' 'A surviv*or* is someone who survives'. 'An edit*or* is someone who edits.'

You will find that -er occurs usually at the end of everyday words. For example: moth*er*, fath*er*, sist*er*, broth*er*, wat*er*, sinn*er*.

Two endings that are also often confused are -able and -ible. A tip to remember is that words ending in -able can often be divided into separate words. The separate words make sense on their own. For example: drinkable (drink+able), adaptable (adapt+able). However, in words ending with an 'e', you usually drop the 'e'. For example, love + able (lovable), value+able (valuable)

Words ending in -ible cannot be divided. For example: sensible, visible, possible, permissible, responsible, eligible, legible.

Stationary or stationery? Stationary means 'paper, pens, pencils, etc. while stationary means 'not moving. If you are confused about -ary and -ery, choose -ary. It is more common - except for these words - cemetery, monastery, nursery, bakery and brewery.

Do you want to know about more tricky endings? The endings -ant and ent are used for adjectives, while -ance and ence are noun endings. For exampe: an important (adj) person = the importance (n) of the person. A different (adj) view = a difference (n) of view.

What about -le and -el? You'd be happy to know that 75% of English words with this sound end with -le. For example: battle, nibble, trouble and table.

Thoroughly confused? Well, don't be. When you read English books, words will become familiar to you. You will soon know what they are.

Exercises

Can you add the right ending to the words below? Use your dictionary.

1. confection..... (ary, ery)
2. annivers..... (ary, ery)
3. cemet..... (ary, ery)
4. comment..... (ary, ery)
5. obser..... (ent, ant)
6. compet..... (ent, ant)
7. defend..... (ent, ant)
8. brilli..... (ent, ant)
9. unrav..... (el, le)
10. litt..... (el, le)

As You Were Saying...

There are many types of English spoken around the world. In the United Kingdom, Queen's English is the refined (no vulgar words) Oxford English for the royalty. Oxford English is the grammatically correct Tony Blair or BBC accented English. There is Cockney English, without any grammar, spoken by taxi drivers of London and the average English working class.

The kind of English spoken by some Hindustanis, especially the young generation of India is called Hinglish, a mix of Hindi and English. Hinglish is used shopping complexes, college canteens and stadiums, lyrics, advertising and over the radio in India.

There is the story of a man who was walking along a street. A car stopped near him. The driver wanted to know the residence of Ajit Singh. The man explained 'You go straight and at the first *charali* turn left, then you will come to a fabrication, then turn right and the third house on the left is that of Ajit Singh'. The perplexed driver said 'Sir I do you mean 'bifurcation?' The man nodded and said 'Yes, I mean road bifurcation'. Well, whatever it is, Hindustanis know the meaning of Hinglish words like *charali* and 'road fabrication' but other nationalities may not. Hinglish has also become fashionable in Hindi films. If you are a Hindi movie fan you would have seen how English is mixed with Hindi.

Chinese is a difficult language to translate literally into English – or vice versa. Hence, when Coca-Cola first tried to market its drink with the Chinese characters 'Ke-Kou-Ke-La', it translated 'Bite

Using your index and middle fingers together to press the push rod to start the razor. Then accelerate it from low speed to high speed. At the same titne put the razor on your rface to shave yourself.
After ahave.twist off the net-cap. Using the small brush to clean razor and net-cap.Afier clean. remo - unt the eazor on. twist on the net - cap again.
The levei of the razor can be adjusted by the samll screw on the razor center.
FOR MYSEFL
!

Can you make out what this instruction is trying to say?

the Wax Tadpole'. Corporate chiefs in United States ordered an emergency rebranding and the Chinese now drink 'Ke-Kou-Ke-Le', meaning 'Happy Mouth, Happiness'. Another quaint Chinglish sign in a Beijing park reads: 'Little grass is smiling slightly, Please walk on pavement.' Fancy a dish of 'bean curd with feeling'? That's what a restaurant in Beijing offers!

The Beijing Tourism Bureau has established a hotline for reporting signs and other public messages that do not read correctly. Linguistic perfection is becoming increasingly important with the rise in the number of foreigners flowing into the city, say the officials. The country is also eager to get rid of Chinglish before the city hosts the Olympic Games in 2008.

What about us, then? Aren't we Malaysians known to abbreviate just about everything? Have you been guilty of saying, ' Hallo, who calling?' 'Don't be shy shy-*lah*', '*do wan* done-*lah*', 'can or not?', 'die-*lah!*' and 'where got?' How can talk like this one – *ah*?

Don't Know Why

Norah Jones

*Singer Norah Jones bagged five awards at the 2003 Grammy Awards. Her song **Don't Know Why** nabbed the Record of the Year, Song of the Year, Best Female Pop Vocal Performance awards while another favourite Come Away With Me nabbed, Album of the Year, and Best New Artist and Best Pop Vocal Album. Norah, whose voice is described as angelic, fresh and haunting, is the daughter of famed Indian sitar player Ravi Shanker.*

I waited 'til I saw the sun
I don't know why I didn't come
I left you by the house of fun
I don't know why I didn't come
I don't know why I didn't come

When I saw the break of day
I wished that I could fly away
Instead of kneeling in the sand
Catching teardrops in my hand

My heart is drenched in wine
But you'll be on my mind
Forever

Out across the endless sea
I would die in ecstasy
But I'll be a bag of bones
Driving down the road alone

My heart is drenched in wine
But you'll be on my mind
Forever

Something has to make you run
I don't know why I didn't come
I feel as empty as a drum
I don't know why I didn't come
I don't know why I didn't come
I don't know why I didn't come

Norah Jones

Find the missing words

The missing words can be found in the song.

1. The _____ is one of our planets.
2. It is _____ learning English with QUEST.
3. _____ rolled down her cheeks when she heard she failed her exam.
4. My _____ leapt with joy when I heard I passed my exam.
5. Drinking _____ is bad for health.
6. We were _____ in sweat after the games.
7. I _____ for an hour for the bus.
8. I don't know _____ the bus is late today.
9. Every _____ I do my homework before I watch the television.
10. The children were _____ butterflies in the park.
11. My father's advice to study hard is always on my _____
12. My mother held my _____ as we crossed the road.
13. She was in _____ when she met her favourite pop star.
14. Calcium is needed for healthy _____ bones.
15. _____ has to be done to stop the roof from leaking.
16. My love for my parents is _____ .
17. My heart felt _____ when my best friend left for overseas.
18. It is dangerous to walk _____ at night.
19. _____ on! Let's go.
20. _____ you know he left the town yesterday?

Answers on page 38

Idioms

1.	**go down with**:	to become ill with
2.	**a flying visit**:	a very short unexpected visit
3.	**anybody's guess**:	something that no-one can be certain about
4.	**keep one's head**:	to remain calm
5.	**a home from home**:	a place where one feels happy and relaxed
6.	**knee-high to a grasshopper**:	very small
7.	**lay off**:	to dismiss workers
8.	**get wind of (something)**:	to get a hint of (something)
9.	**spread like wildfire**:	spread very fast
10.	**a square deal**:	an honest bargain

EXERCISES

Find the correct idioms from the above to complete the sentences.

1. In the event of an emergency it is important to .....
2. My residential school is a real .....
3. News of the attack by the enemies.....
4. As soon as the smugglers ..... a police raid they fled the area.
5. The students ..... with food poisoning one after the other.
6. The King paid ..... to the flood-stricken village.
7. You always get ..... in Pak Amin's shop.
8. Many companies had to ..... its workers because of the war.
9. It is .....who will win the war.
10. He's been interested in aircraft ever since he was .....

Answers on page 38

THAT'S NOT RIGHT-Lah!

Can you rewrite the sentences in proper English?

1. Why no water in the tap?

   .....

2. He was warded in hospital.

   .....

3. Can I follow) you to library?

   .....

4. Leave alone me.

   .....

5. Did the noise fright you?

   .....

6. The police sure find him.

   .....

7. I not see you for more than a month. Where you been?

   .....

8. How long you arrive here?

   .....

9. He not speak to me for three weeks.

   .....

10. I buy one like your's a month ago.

    .....

11. We visit Pulau Langkawi last month.

    .....

12. She not have any children.

    .....

13. My neighbours shifted to Klang.

    .....

14. Who that teacher?

    .....

15. We are not lost, isn't it?

    .....

16. You don't believe me, isn't it?

    .....

17. You live where?

    .....

18. My one also same same.

    .....

19. Why you like that one?

    .....

20. I told you cannot go.

    .....

Answers on page 38

WORD POWER

See how the words are used in the sentences.

1. **attire** (n): clothes worn
   The bride's **attire** cost a lot of money.

2. **mindless** (adj): without thought
   His **mindless** act put the people in danger.

3. **occasionally** (adv): now and then
   We go down to the beach **occasionally**.

4. **piqued** (pp): hurt
   She was **piqued** when they would not play with her.

5. **circumstances** (n): conditions affecting a situation
   He was unableto further his studies because of his financial **circumstances.**

6. **ailing** (pr p): ill
   She had to look after her **ailing** mother.

7. **dank** (adj): disagreeably damp
   The house smelt **dank** because of the leaking roof.

8. **divert** (v): turn aside
   The police had to **divert** the traffic because of an accident.

9. **garnished** (pp): decorated, especially a dish of food
   She **garnished** nasi bryani with red chillies.

10. **trivia** (n): unimportant details
    Don't waste time over **trivia**.

This story extract from the book ***Sounder*** *is about a dog's love and loyalty towards its owner, a young boy. The story is set in America, during the days of slavery. Some cruel men had come to take away the boy's father. Sounder, the brave dog, tries to prevent the men from taking the boy's father. The book Sounder by William H. Armstrong is a Newberry Medal winner.*

Sounder

The deputy who had started out to bring up the wagon kicked the closed door and swore at the dog on the other side.

'Go out and hold that mongrel if you don't want him shot.' He held the door ajar the width of the boy's body and thrust him out. The boy fell on the back of the dog, whose snarling jaws had pushed into the light between the boy's legs. A heavy boot half pushed, half kicked the entangled feet of the sprawled boy and the nose of the dog and slammed the door. 'Get that dog out of the way and hold him if you don't want him dead.'

The boy, regaining his balance, dragged Sounder off the porch and to the corner of the cabin. Then the deputy, hearing the barking move back from the door, opened it and came out. He walked out of the circle of light but returned soon leading a horse hitched to a spring wagon. A saddled horse followed behind the wagon.

The appearance of the horses and the added confusion of people coming from the cabin roused Sounder to a new fury. The boy felt his knees give. His arms ached, and his grip on the dog's collar was beginning to feel clammy and wet. But he held on.

'Chain him up,' said the sheriff.

The boy thought they were telling him to chain up Sounder, but then he saw that one of the men had sapped a long chain on the handcuffs on his father's wrists. As the men pushed his father into the back of the wagon his overalls caught on the end of the tail-gate bolt, and he tore a long hole in his overalls. The bolt took one side of the ticking patch with it. The man holding the chain jerked it, and the boy's father fell backward into the wagon. The man swung the loose end of the chain, and it struck the boy's father across the face. One of the deputies pulled

the chain tight and tied it to the wagon seat. The two deputies climbed the wagon seat; the sheriff mounted the saddled horse. The cabin door was open; the boy's mother was standing in the doorway. He did not see his brother and sisters.

Sounder was making an awful noise, a half-strangled mixture of growl and bark. The boy spoke to him, but the great paws only dug harder to grip the frozen earth. Inch by inch the boy was losing his footing. Numbness was beginning to creep up his arms and legs, and he was being dragged away from the corner of the house.

The wagon started, and the sheriff rode behind it on his horse. Sounder made a great lunge forward, and the boy fell against the corner of the porch. Sounder raced after the wagon. No one yelled after him. The mother stood still in the doorway. The deputy who wasn't holding the reins turned on the seat, aimed his shotgun at the dog jumping at the side of the wagon, and fired. Sounder fell in the road, and the sheriff rode around him. Sounder's master was still on his back in the wagon, but he did not raise his head to look back.

The boy struggled to his feet. His head hurt where he had hit it against the corner of the porch. Now his mother spoke for the first time since he had opened the door to bring in wood. 'Come in, child, and bring some wood.'

Sounder lay still in the road.

Reading for Understanding

1. Who is Sounder?

   .....

2. Chain him up. Who were they referring to?

   .....

3. How many people came to get the boy's father?

   .....

4. What season do you think the event took place? Why?

   .....

5. What words would you use to describe Sounder?

   .....

6. What words would you use to describe the sheriff and his men?

   .....

Answers on page 38

It Sounds Like ....

A homophone is a word that sounds the same as another word, even though its spelling may be different. Find below the right homophone for the words in the left column. Then make sentences with the words below.

wood, for, write, bee, new, nought, whey, coarse, great, blue, won, weight, herd, been

Word	Homophone
a. one	won .....
b. grate	.....
c. blew	.....
d. would	.....
e. way	.....
f. course	.....
g. wait	.....
h. heard	.....
i. bean	.....
j. four	.....
k. right	.....
l. be	.....
m. knew	.....
n. not	.....

It's Hidden!

Using clues below, find the appropriate words from the list

companion, comprehension, personal, useless, breaking, escape, chocolate, entangled, , climbed, sandshoe, pyjamas,intricate, activity, education

a. This word has a large monkey at the end of it.
Answer: Esc**ape**

b. The end of this word is not on time.

.....

c. This word has a brownish colour in its middle.

.....

d. This word ends with the past tense of 'eat'.

.....

e. This word has a cooking utensil in its middle.

.....

f. This word has something you put on bread.

.....

g. This word begins with something to do with drama.

.....

h. This word has a cat in the middle.

.....

i. This word has a hen in the middle.

.....

j. This word has a boy in the middle.

.....

k. The end of this word does not give you much.

.....

l. The end of this word makes you a ruler of a country.

.....

m. The middle of this word gives you a part of the body.

.....

n. The middle of this word is a conjunction.

.....

Compound Words

Think of a word to form a compound word.

a. Example: *jet*ski

b. .....top

c. .....stone

d. .....fall

e. .....keeper

f. .....note

g. .....sick

h. .....over

i. .....diver

j. .....thing

k. .....pit

l. .....book

m. .....web

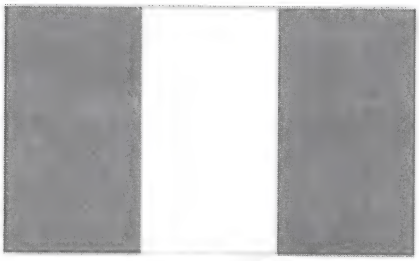
n. .....mate

Match the Meanings

Circle three words from each in the right hand column that are similar in meaning.

a. sure	certain, definite, robust, positive, strong
b. dangerous	afraid, high, risky, hazardous, perilous
c. painful	excruciating, sore, hurtful, sluggish, concise
d. foolish	unsure, doubtful, silly, unwise, stupid
e. weak	feeble, helpless, flimsy, curious, eager
f. brave	destructive, bold, courageous, daring, indignant
g. wail	sick, unwell, cry, moan, howl
h. wistful	plenty, greedy, sad, longing, nostalgic
i. eerie	cold, windy, strange, weird, spooky
j. customs	traditions, beliefs, practices
k. tumult	fall, eat, uproar, commotion, din
l. perfume	aroma, fragrance, smell, sweaty, good
m. bright	cheerful, happy, joyous, tell, hope
n. walk	stroll, stride, saunter, cycle, climb

Mi chiamo...



That means 'My name is .....' in Italian. Italian retains the closest resemblance to Latin, a language of the Romans. Have fun showing off a few words of Italian to your friends!

English	Italian
one	uno
two	due
three	tri
four	quattro
five	cinque
six	sei
seven	sette
eight	otto
nine	nove
ten	dieci
hi	hello
so long	ciao
nice to meet you	piacere
I	io
you	you
who?	chi?
yes	si
Good morning	Buon giorno
Good afternoon	Buon pomeriggio
Good evening	Buona sera
How are you?	Come sta?
Thanks	Grazie
school	la scuola
boarding school	il collegio
university	i'universita
education	la pedagogia
English	l'inglese
history	la storia
happy Birthday	Buon compleanno
I am hungry	Ho fame
house	casa
coffee	caffe
food	cibo
easy	facile
cinema	cinema
in one voice	a una voce
by heart	a memoria
body	il corpo
heart	il cuore
post	a post
technical college	i'istituto tecnico

What do you think the words mean? It should be easy if you have been studying your health science.

1. l' arteria .....
2. la clavicola .....
3. il braccio .....
4. la laringe .....
5. il nervo .....
6. la pina dosale .....
7. lo stomaco .....
8. la biologia .....
9. la chimica .....
10. l' odontologia .....
11. la medicina .....
12. la psicologia .....
13. la veterinaria .....
14. la sociologia .....
15. la fisica .....
16. la farmacia .....

Answer. See upside down

1. artery
2. clavicle
3. arm
4. larynx
5. nerve
6. spine
7. stomach
8. biology
9. chemistry
10. dentistry
11. medicine
12. psychology
13. veterinary medicine
14. sociology
15. physics
16. pharmacy

TEACHER: Adam, your ideas are like diamonds.

***Adam**: You mean they're so valuable?*

TEACHER: No, I mean they're so rare.

TEACHER: Su Jin, the story you wrote on 'Our Dog," is exactly like your brother's.

***Su Jin**: Of course, it is, teacher. We have the same dog.*

TEACHER: Nasha, your poem is terrible. It's ungrammatical, rude and in bad taste. I'm going to send your mother a note about it.

***Nasha**: I don't think she would like that, teacher. She wrote the poem.*

TEACHER: John, what nationality are you?

***John**: An ice-cube, sir.*

TEACHER: Ice-cube?

***John**: Well, my father was born in Iceland and my mother in Cuba. That makes me an ice cube, sir.*

TEACHER: Aravind, what is the difference between ammonia and pneumonia?

***Aravind**: Ammonia comes in bottles, pneumonia comes in chests, sir.*

TEACHER: Ee Von, what's an abyss?

***Ee Von**: An abbot's wife, teacher.*

TEACHER: Thiru, what does accidental mean?

***Thiru**: It's when you fall and knock your teeth out on the way to the dentist.*

TEACHER: Ali, what's an actor?

***Ali**: A man who tries to be everything but himself, sir.*

TEACHER: Chong, what's an adult?

***Chong**: A person who has stopped growing at both ends and has started growing in the middle, sir.*

TEACHER: Yee, what's the meaning of afford?

***Yee**: It is a very popular Japanese car, sir.*

TEACHER: Sam, what's an antelope?

***Sam**: It is when two ants run off to get married.*

TEACHER: Juan what's an anti-body?

***Juan**: It is my neighbour's fat wife, sir.*

TEACHER: Amin, what's an apex?

***Amin**: It's the female gender of an ape, sir.*

TEACHER: Navin, what's an astronaut?

***Navin**: A person who's crazy about Astro television, sir.*

TEACHER: Bashir, what's an atom?

***Bashir**: A male cat, sir.*

TEACHER: Shamin, what's the meaning of attendance?

***Shamin**: A dance where ten people dance together.*

EXPLORING CAREERS

BY: ELINA KAMARUZZAMAN

Remember I promised all of you that we would explore various careers? Well, here's a start to it. This time, I interviewed Shalina Azhar who works with the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC). The council's main aim is to consolidate and mobilise the national response to issues pertaining to HIV/AIDS. Let's see what Shalina does and perhaps this may be an option for you future career.

What is your designation at work?
*I am the **Media and Communications Officer** for the MAC.*

What does a Media and Communications Officer for MAC do?
Basically, I monitor coverage of the HIV/AIDS issue in the press and any activity in relation this. This includes educating the media about our policies and keeping them up-to-date with our activities. I am the spokesperson for the council, that means I would usually speak on behalf of the council.

Apart from that, I am also responsible for any information and educational material pertaining to HIV/AIDS. For instance, if there is an advertisement on HIV/AIDS, I would make sure that it is customised for the target population. I also organise press conferences for the council.

What is a press conference?
Well, when the council needs to inform the media and the nation about a new policy, activities or highlight any HIV/AIDS issue, we would invite the press to a designated venue and to give out a press release. A press release contains information on what we want to inform and publicise. During the press conference, reporters would usually interview the spokesperson or any MAC representative if they have further questions on the issue at hand.

So, are you in-charge of most if not all the information on HIV/AIDS?
No. Anyone can write about HIV/AIDS and it is my job to read every material published on this issue. This is important because from there, I would be able to guage, the value the public places on HIV/AIDS. If I find that the information provided is incorrect or misleading, it is my responsibility to correct and rectify whatever misconceptions that has been stated.

It seems that you have a lot on your plate. What else do you do?"
MAC has its own affiliates like Women's Aid Organisation and Indian Estates Association. My job is to equip their representatives with media skills. This will enable them to be more media-savvy

What kind of qualifications do you need to be in this job?
I have a degree in Mass Communications but it is not essential for this job.

What kind of experience do you need to be in this job?

I have had a lot of experience working in the media because I had a part-time job with a public relations company after Form Five. So, I had somehow learnt how to liase with the media and know what information that would be important to them. The media usually like to publish things if it is focused on a particular angle.

So you would encourage someone who has an interest in job to look for part-time jobs?
Definitely! The young must always occupy themselves so that they can learn as much as they can and prepare themselves better for their future vocation. It is also a good way to start earning and saving money.

What kind of skills must you have to do your job well?
I would say good interpersonal, communication and writing skills.

Did you gain any of these skills in school?
Yes, I joined the English Literature and Debating Society and that allowed me to hone my communication skills. My school also had a strong emphasis in writing essays and literature, so I must say that the language lessons, Bahasa Melayu and English were have been a great help.

When I was in college, too, I was very active in organizing functions like the Orientation Week and End of Year Ball. These organisation skills that I gained along the way have helped me a lot with my press conferences.

Do you have a nine to five job?
Technically, yes, in reality, no. It all depends on my workload.

What is your typical day like?
I start out with scanning the newspapers and magazines on articles pertaining to HIV/AIDS. If I need to rectify anything that has been stated, I would write a comment and send it in. If need be, I would attend meetings which usually have to do with activities or publicity work for MAC. During the meetings, we would do the planning and later I would execute the plan by myself or in a team. If there is a press conference on that day, then it would be a very busy day. I would ensure the attendance of the press and make sure all the needs of the press people are met.

What is interesting about this job?
I believe I am making a difference in changing people's views on HIV/AIDS.

What are your bad days like?
Sometimes, there are so much stigma and discriminatory issues to deal with and the worst when all of them come at one time. Although it's part of my job to deal with it, it can be disheartening.

So, you have to be a bit thick-skinned to do this job?
That's a good attitude to have actually. That and open-mindedness.

What are your career prospects? How far can you go in this job?
I see myself as a person who can mobilize support for HIV/AIDS issues. There is a lot to be done and I am sure we have not exhausted all alternatives. How far I can go is how much more can be done. Even if all is done here, which is highly unlikely, I can only see myself doing something like this but advocating different issues. I just cannot see myself working in the corporate sector, it's just not my cup of tea. At the end of the day, it's what clicks for you and makes you happy. I am happy doing this.

RONALDO

Ronaldo is one of the best young footballers in the world. The young Brazilian captured the hearts and imagination of the world at a young age. Born on 22 September 1976, Ronaldo became famous at 16 when his football skills landed him a spot on Brazil's 1994 FIFA World Cup USATM squad.

Soon, Ronaldo headed in the footsteps of fellow legend Romario and joined Dutch side PSV Eindhoven. In two seasons, he scored 42 goals, despite playing in only 13 matches in 1995-96. He joined Barcelona in 1996 and scored 34 goals in his one season with the Spanish giants.

Ronaldo reached the peak of personal success by being named FIFA Player of the Year in both 1996 and 1997, becoming the youngest player to ever win the award and the only player to win it in consecutive years.

At the age of 20, Ronaldo was on top of the world. The upcoming 1998 FIFA World Cup France brought high expectations from the masses as the public was anxious to see Ronaldo compete at the highest stage.

His future looked so bright, former England manager Bobby Robson had strong words to say about Ronaldo.'He will become the best ever,' Robson said.

The finals in France, though, did not turn out to be quite what the world expected. Ronaldo scored just one goal in the first round. In the second round, Ronaldo bagged a double against Chile.

In the semi-finals, he scored Brazil's lone goal against Holland, and the Selecao went on to win in a penalty-kick shootout.

Then came the final. At the biggest game on the biggest stage, Ronaldo faltered. Slowed by an illness, he missed his scoring chances and was forced to watch France celebrate their first championship.

Ronaldo's disappointment in France was topped only by the disappointment of not watching Ronaldo play at all. He has suffered two serious knee injuries with Inter Milan that have limited his play since the 98 final.

However he came back after the injuries to score eight goals at the 2002 World Cup finals to become Fifa World Player of the Year.

Space missions are not without risks, and women are becoming part of these bold missions.

Women in Space

On January 28, 1986, seven crew members on board space shuttle Challenger from Kennedy Space Center in Florida were killed when the shuttle disintegrated in the sky, seventy-three seconds after take off. Among those was a teacher **Christa McAuliffe** who had applied to go on the mission. She was selected from among more than 11,000 teachers who had applied.

On 1 February 2003 space shuttle Columbia burst into flames and disintegrated into pieces just minutes before it was to land. Among those killed were two women astronauts, **Laurel Clark** and **Kalpana Chawla**.

Laurel, 41, was a doctor who joined the space program in 1996. Columbia flight was her first shuttle mission. She had many experiments to do whilst in space. Before the mission, Clark was injected with chemicals for a medical experiment. She also donated blood several times before and after going into space. She kept samples of her saliva and tracked what she ate. She recorded how much she slept in an effort to see how space affected the human body. She also kept note of a silkworm cocoon as part of an experiment. 'Life continues in lots of places, and life is a magical thing,' she said of her time spent in space.

Kalpana Chawla,42, made headlines in 1997 when she became the first Indian to fly in space shuttle Columbia. The extraordinary record put not only India, but her hometown Karnal on the space map. On her 1997 flight as the shuttle passed over India,

Kalpana Chawla

especially New Delhi, she pointed it out to the other crew members and said, 'I lived near there.'

The school she went to when she was young was proud of her and named its science room Kalpana Vigyan Kaksh.

She loved space and had space shuttles on her walls as a student. She excelled in school and emigrated to the United States in the 1980s and became a U.S.

Laurel Clark

citizen. There she earned an advanced degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Texas and a doctorate from the University of Colorado in the late 1980s. She became an astronaut in 1994 and made her first space flight in 1997. When she became a NASA astronaut, she invited four students from her former school.

Like Laurel, Kalpana, too, found space intriguing. 'I was not born for one corner,' she had said , quoting philosopher Seneca. 'The whole universe is my native land.'

Something to Think About

1. What happens when both boys and girls are given equal opportunities in education?
2. What risks do astronauts take when they go on space mission?
3. Do you think the conquest of space is worth the risk of life? Why?

The UNLUCKY WARRIOR

Once upon a time there was a Samurai called Hido. Valiant and strong, he was afraid of no-one, yet in all the wars he had ever fought, he had always found himself on the losing side. People in his home town began to say "Hido brings bad luck." And because nobody wanted him to fight for them any more the Samurai ended up a poor man. He said to himself:

"I'll go to a town where no-one knows me. Maybe I'll find work there." He gathered up his remaining belongings, his sword, bow and three arrows, and set off along the first road he came to. On and on he walked, until after many days march, he reached the banks of a lake. As he started to cross the narrow bridge over the water, he stopped in surprise. The way was blocked by an enormous snake, fast asleep. From its mouth and nostrils, it breathed red smoke with a pungent smell of sulphur. Hido thought to himself, "That beast isn't going to stop me," and on tiptoe he stepped over the snake, without wakening it up, and went on his way. But he had barely gone twenty metres when he heard a voice behind him.

"Hey, you! Samurai!" He turned round. The snake had disappeared and in its place stood a well-dressed man, who made a friendly gesture and said,

"You're a brave one! You weren't scared of the snake. You see, I'm looking for a Samurai, and so, whenever I see someone coming, I turn into a snake. So far, you're the only person that has had the courage to step over it. What's your name?"

"Hido," replied the Samurai, "and who are you?" The man pointed to the lake.

"I'm King of that realm."

"What!" exclaimed Hido. "Is your realm a lake?" The King replied smiling,

"Yes. But under the water lies a great city protected by a crystal ball. My people live there happily, or at least they were happy until the Dragon arrived."

"The Dragon?" asked Hido. And the King replied sadly,

"Yes. Every second night he dives off the bridge into the water, enters the crystal ball and creates havoc amongst my subjects. It won't be long before he eats us all. That's why I'm looking for a Samurai!"

Hido understood what he meant. "Do you want me to fight the Dragon?" he asked.

"Yes!"

"I think you ought to know, Sire, that people say I bring bad luck." To which the King replied:

"I never believe what I hear, only what I see. Come with me." He took Hido's hand and they went down into the lake. Wonder of wonders! The waters opened up and they went down to the great crystal circle that contained the city. There, Hido sat down with the King who gave him food and drink. Then he said, "In a little while you will hear a terrible noise. It will be the Dragon. You will have to face him up there, Hido."

"I'm not afraid. I have my sword, bow and three arrows."

"Only three? You will need a hundred arrows!" exclaimed the King. But Hido shook his head.

"They're poisoned, but even if they weren't, they would still be enough, because if the Dragon doesn't stop with three arrows in him, I wouldn't have time to fire any more." Just then there was a fearful noise and the sound of shouting.

"The Dragon! The Dragon!" Hido picked up his weapons and ran onto the bridge, only just in time. For the Dragon, huge and terrible, was advancing, with a roar, and breathing fire. Hido fired his first and second arrows, both of them hit the Dragon right in the heart, but it didn't stop.

Just as the Dragon was bearing down ferociously on him, Hido remembered hearing that the only poison to stop a dragon is a man's saliva. So he licked his fingers and wet the tip of his last arrow, fired and hit the Dragon . . .

On it came, still roaring. "All is lost," said Hido to himself . . .

. . . but after taking another step or two, the Dragon stopped in its tracks, shuddered and fell to the ground. It was dead. All the citizens rushed from the lake to greet Hido and shower him with gifts, telling him:

"Oh, brave Samurai, luck is with you and with our people!" So Hido knew that not only had he defeated the Dragon, he had overcome his bad luck.

ISSUE NUMBER 2
Apr-Jun 2003

Junior QUEST

THINKING AND LEARNING IN ENGLISH

Hello, kids!

Did you enjoy the first issue of Junior QUEST?

I hope the quiz, the exercises and the short story made you think hard. Here are some more fun things to do.

Do write to me and tell me how you find Junior QUEST. Don't be shy, okay?

Happy learning!

The Editor

Junior QUEST
QUEST Publications
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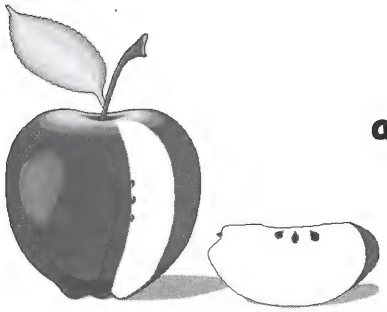
46790 Petaling Jaya
Selangor

Join the pictures to the descriptions.

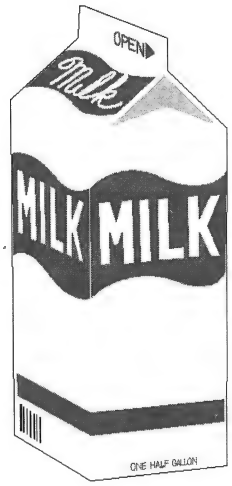


APPLE

Example:

a) On a hot day, you would just love to drink me.

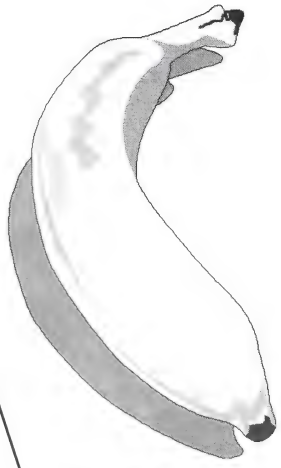
b) I am white and creamy. I make children's bones strong.



MILK

c) I am a soft tropical fruit with yellow skin when I'm ripe. Beware! Don't step on my skin.

d) A is for ..... If you know the answer, you are smart.



BANANA

ICED DRINK

Answers. See upside down

a. iced drink
b. milk
c. banana
d. apple

Count in Twos

Start at 0.
Hop along two.
Colour the number you land on.
Carry on.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
						7
						8
15	14	13	12	11	10	9
16						
17						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24

The Dove and the Ant

An Ant fell into a river. He was carried along, not knowing where he would end.

A Dove saw him and pitied him. He threw a small branch into the river for the Ant to hold. Clinging on to the branchthe Ant reached the shore safely.

Days later, the Ant spotted a hunter aiming at the Dove. The Ant climbed on to hunter's foot and bit him sharply. The bite made him miss his aim. The Dove's life was saved.

Moral of the story: Little friends may prove to be great friends later.

Exercises

1. Where is the story taking place?
2. What events began the story?
3. What is the high point of the story?
4. What events led to the conclusion?
5. Do we find these kinds of friendships today?

WORD TARGET

WIN EXCITING MYSTERY PRIZES

Each square contains a letter. All you have to do is to form as many words as you can using the letters in the squares. Read the rules below carefully before you start.

R	I	G
H	E	S
T	O	U

RULES

1. Every word you form must make use of the letter E
2. Words must be made up of THREE or more letters.
3. Proper nouns, slang words, abbreviations and plural words are not allowed.
4. YOU CANNOT REPEAT THE SAME LETTER TWICE in a word.
5. YOU CANNOT REPEAT THE SAME WORD TWICE.
6. Finally, every entry must contain ONE word formed from all the nine letters in the squares.
7. Write down all the words on a sheet of paper. Write clearly.
8. All entries must be accompanied by the contest coupon provided in page 25.

PRIZES

1. FIVE winners with the most number of correctly-formed words will EACH receive A MYSTERY PRIZE WORTH RM10.00
2. A **FREE** copy of QUEST will be sent to TEN others with the most number of correctly-formed words in each descending order of merit.

QUEST CROSSWORD

EXCITING MYSTERY PRIZES TO BE WON!!

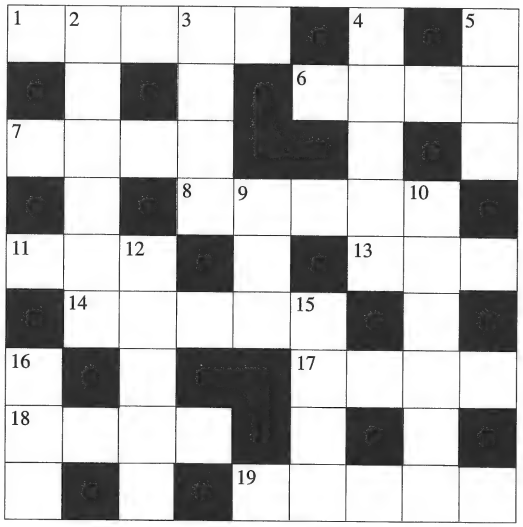
Here is a crossword for you to solve. FIVE all correct entries will EACH receive A MYSTERY PRIZE WORTH RM10.00. TEN others win each receive A FREE COPY of QUEST.

ACROSS

1. Small piece of land (4)
3. A purplish fruit (4)
6. It comes before two (3)
7. One the move (5)
8. To have effect on (9)
11. Spoon with a long handle and large bowl (5)
12. Boy (3)
13. To do as one is told (4)
14. To deal successfully with

DOWN

2. A coarse cloth (5)
4. A language not spoken nowadays (5)
5. To mix in (5)
7. Sharp (5)
8. Snow hut (5)
9. Popular sweetmeat (5)
10. Muscular pain (5)



Name: .....

School: ..... Form: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

CONTEST COUPONS

WORD TARGET CONTEST COUPON

Name: .....

Age.....:.....

School: ..... Form: .....

Home Address: .....

.....

.....:

.....

.....

.....

CONTESTS IN THIS ISSUE CLOSE ON 20 JUNE 2003!!

Send your letters to:
QUEST Publications (Contests)
P.O. Box 8436,
Kelana Jaya Post Office
47960 Petaling Jaya
Selangor

QUEST Q56 PENPAL CLUB COUPON

Name: .....Boy/Girl .....

Date of Birth: .....

Hobbies: .....

.....

Home Address: .....

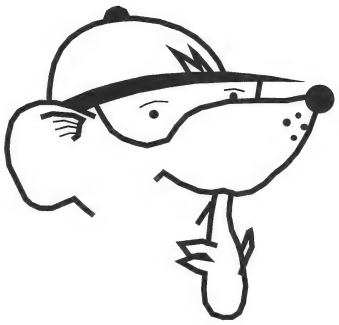
.....

.....

'Write Something Funny' Contest for Junior QUEST Readers!

The funniest entry wins a fun-sticker!

This naughty mouse has something funny to say. What do you think it will say?



The Mouse said:.....

.....

.....

My name is:.....

I am ..... years old.

I live at: .....

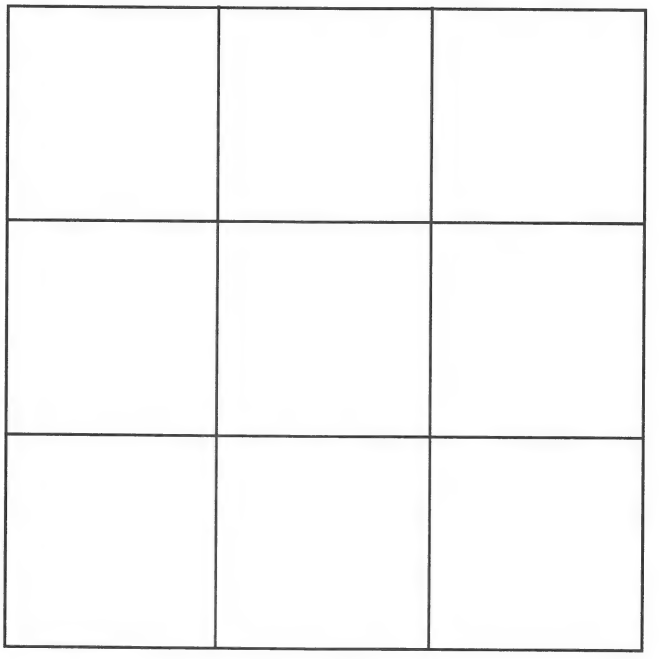
.....

.....

.....

Solve the

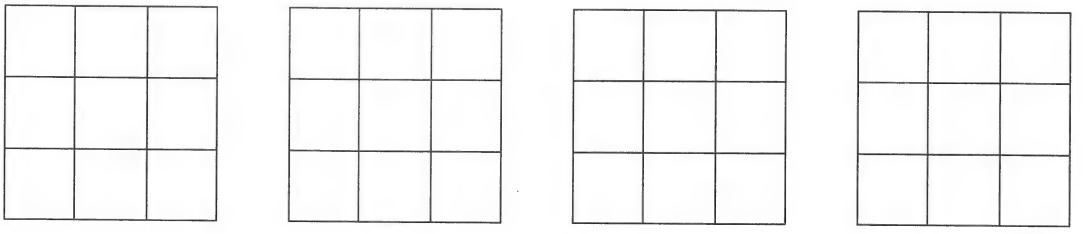
Magic Square



Put these numbers inside the square so that the sum of each row, column and diagonal is the same

1 1 1 2 2 2 3 3 3

How many different ways can you do it?



@bout time we covered CD burning and DVD on the PC as well as removable drives so without further ado, let us...

The Spark-Key Column Version 4.0

Know Our Discs

Disc Old Man, He Had Disc, Disc Me On My...

Knee? No, unfortunately. There are discs and then there are discs. Originally, there were only floppy discs (the large 5.25-inches in size ones).

Then, Hard Disc Drives (or HDD), which were fixed drives inside your PC case, became standard when programme files got too big to be placed on too many floppy discs. They were small then, some only about 20MB (Seriously!)

That was then...

Now, most new PCs come with HDD the size (capacity really - HDD physical size is like a floppy drive, the 3.5-inch version) of 50GB. Some may be smaller, some larger up to 120GB.

Gradually, the ancient 5.25-inch floppy made way for the smaller (and larger capacity at 1.4MB) floppy disc. The older one could hold 1.2MB.

However, with HDD becoming bigger for more large programmes (and games), the 1.4MB floppy wasn't adequate enough and that's how CD-ROMs came to be used. Using a standard CD from Audio CDs, the CD-ROM standard was invented that jumped the PC from standard computing, to Multimedia and mass-usage today.

Holding up to 650MB (and these days 700MB or even 800MB), the CD-ROM made way for large transfers and making floppy discs obsolete. Confined to being used at Boot Discs, floppies soon began to wane this use as well with more newer PCs beginning to support booting (starting-up) via CD-ROMs as well.

However, there was a problem - floppies allowed for reading from the disc, and writing to it. CD-ROMs could only read from it, not write to it. More expensive methods were employed by those needing large files to be written. Magneto-Optical (MO) discs, Zip drives (by Iomega, popular among graphic professionals) and some other discs were the only other ways.

Then, finally CD burning came into picture. At last the massive CD-ROM could be created by you in the very confines of your own PC. In the beginning it was slow and expensive, the drives that could write onto CD-ROMs. Over time they improved by leaps, became faster, more reliable, cheaper and eventually, became very common.

Today, a CD writer drive can cost about RM200 and blank CDs (which you can burn with your drive) cost anywhere from RM2 to RM20, depending on quality, brand and the package.

Burning? Why is my drive burning?

Since CD-ROMs (and normal Audio CDs) use laser to read the information off the disc, hence the technology used is based on light, these drives are called optical drives. DVD drives are optical as well, not so for Zip or HDD as these are magnet-based. They work like how floppies work - the drive alternates magnets on the discs to store and retrieve information from it.

So to write information to a CD, you will also need a laser to 'burn' a beam of laser onto the disc to store information. Hence it's called CD burning.

Burning at the Speed of Light...

How fast a drive is able to write determines how fast it takes for a full CD to be created. The current maximum speed for writing is 52 times since that is the maximum for reading as well for now.

However, such high speeds create a problem. For one, you'll need a high-quality disc to write that fast without creating corrupted discs and do you really need to create a CD in just a minute?

A 20-speed CD writer can take 5 minutes (the time taken differs from brand to brand) and this is usually more than enough if you burn sometimes only. It's safer and much cheaper too. For wider compatibility, if you have the time (like 20 minutes) burn CDs at 8x. These days CD-writers can also re-write re-writeable CD-ROMs.

These CDs, which are slightly more expensive, can be written, erased and written again like floppies in the past. It makes great portable storage for large data and a floppy replacement. The downside? Only CD writers can recognise CD-RW discs (ReWriteable). With a blank CD that you've created in your CD writer drive, it can be read by any CD-ROM drive. If you made an Audio CD, you can even listen to it on any CD player. So it has its pros and cons using ReWriteable CDs to replace floppies or CD-Rs.

CD-Rs are blank CDs which can be written once then it turns into a CD-ROM. As blank CDs are becoming cheaper these days, it makes sense to transfer data on CD-Rs which can be read by any CD-ROM drives (or CD player for Audio CD), instead of CD-RW. Until it's common for people to have CD writers on their PCs, CD-RW discs can only be read (and burnt) in CD writers.

So much for CD creating basics for now - next issue we'll look at DVDs and some other drives! Until then, have fun making your compilations!

Techno-whizz Kids

Students in some schools in America use their computer knowledge to repair computers in their schools. They are called 'tech helpers'. If a teacher needs a computer set up for a class, a technology problem solved, or new software installed, he'll send for an in-house 13-year-old expert instead of an outside contractor.

Besides repairing computer problems, the students update the school Web site – which they created – type documents, scan photos, take and download digital photos, burn CDs, and use programs such as Publisher, Word, and PowerPoint to create teachers' classroom materials. It saves a lot amount of money, says one school principal.

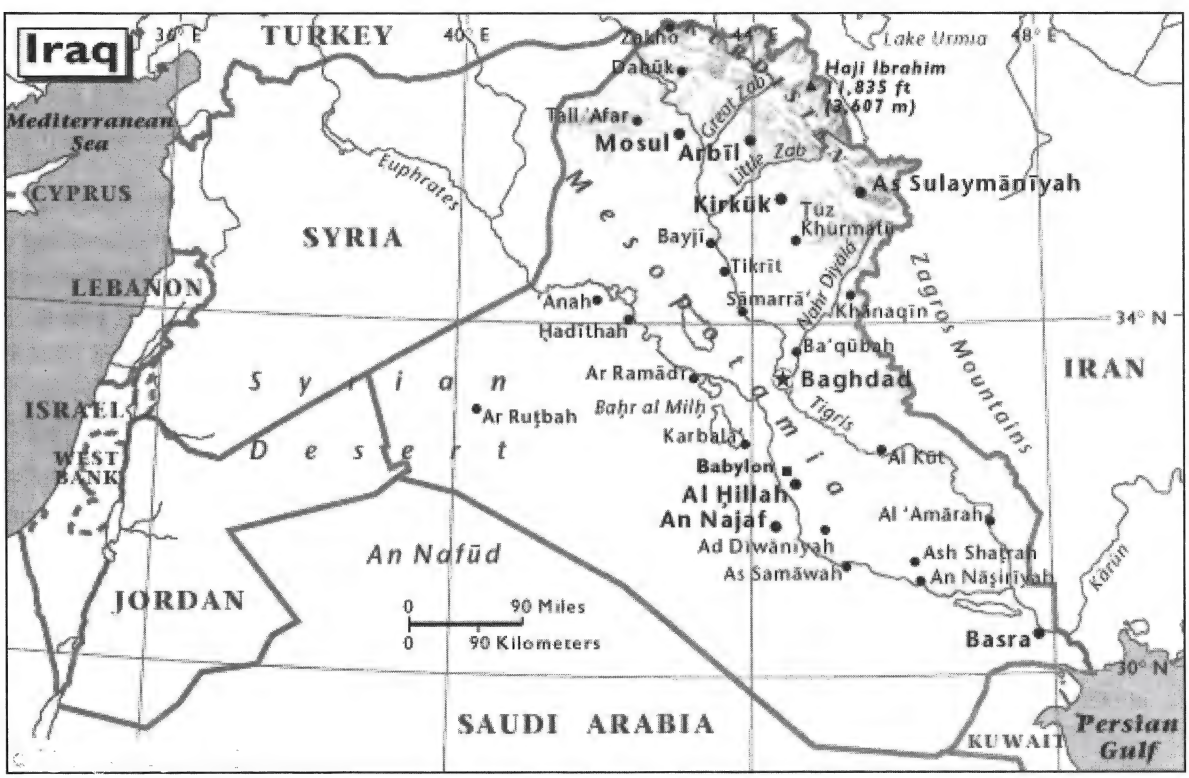
Students of Tupelo Middle School in the United States spent their leisure time teaching old people how to set up e-mail accounts and how to use the Internet. The students were patient with the old folks and developed close friendship with them. The students' act opened up a whole new world for the old people.Some old folks even paid the students to come and give them extra coaching. Other students were hired part-time by local computer companies.

Tupelo Middle School is also one of the first schools in the United States to teach remote sensing, the use of technology to relay information to and from a distant location. Students in science class record weather data from a buoy in the Gulf of Mexico and pass it along to regional scientists via the Internet.

War

May Affect 570,000 Iraqi Children

The United Nations Children's Fund estimates that the war in Iraq may affect more than half a million children in the country. By the time the war ends, Iraqi children could need psychological counselling, said the UN representative Carel de Rooy. He said there are 5.7 million primary school age children in Iraq and that at least 10 percent of those would need support.



What would it be like for the thousands of Iraqi children living in fear of war? How do they rebuild their lives after the war? Look at the photographs.

* What title would you give each photo?
* Why was the photo taken?
* Where do you think the setting is?
* What time do you think it would be?
* What objects and/or structures do you see?
* Do you see people in the photos
* How are the people dressed?
* Are these people family members?
* What emotions do you see or sense? Anger? Fear? Confusion? Sadness? Joy? Expressionless?
* What emotions did you feel when you saw the photographs?

Damaged hearts repaired

Scientists have perfected a way of repairing tissue damaged by scarring during a heart attack. The technique involves using immature cells taken from muscles in the leg and making them into 'living patches' that can be grafted on to heart tissue. Tests show that more than a year after the procedure, cells have not only grown into new heart-like tissue but restored the organ's pumping action.

The breakthrough could prevent the sometimes fatal decline in heart function that can follow a heart attack. Heart attacks can kill off vast swaths of muscle vital to pumping blood effectively. The scar tissue that is left behind can seriously damage the heart's effectiveness. The results, presented at the annual meeting of the American College of Cardiology in Chicago, showed that after four to eight weeks, the damaged part of the heart wall was contracting much more efficiently.

Stem cells could repair brain damage

Scientists believe that adult stem cells could some day be used to replace damaged cells in diseases like brain injury, stroke, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Dr John Yu, an expert in stem cell technology at the Cedars-Sinai Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute in Los Angeles says that his team had already shown that brain cells could be made in the laboratory from bone marrow cells.

Lead researcher Dr Eva Mezey says adult stem cells, on the other hand, could be harvested from patients themselves. However, she says that at present there was no evidence that bone marrow cells can repair damage in the human brain.

She also said there was a possibility that introducing new cells into the brain ran a risk of also introducing harmful elements such as viruses at the same time.

Vaccine on the Way

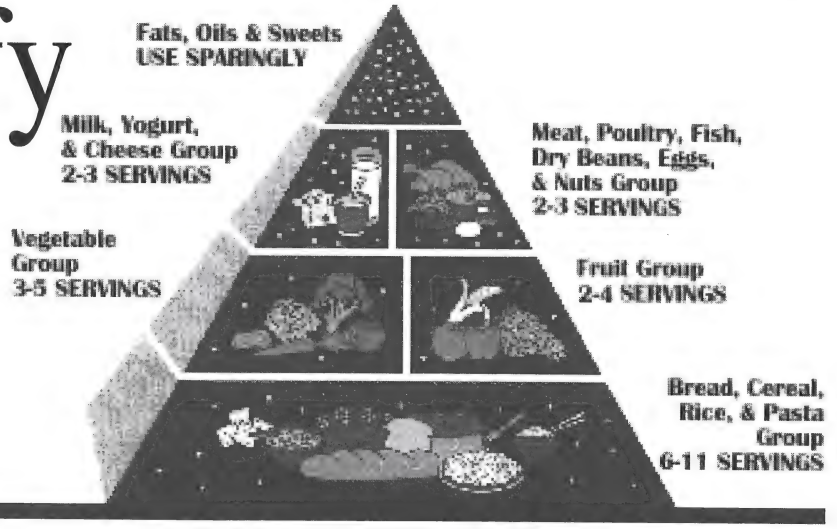
Researchers in the United States are working toward a vaccine that could eventually help control the mystery illness that has spread from Asia to North America.The research on a vaccine is just getting under way at the National Institutes of Health, but officials said they are already trying to interest industry in producing a vaccine based on the results.

Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) erupted in southern China's Guangdong province months ago. It spread worldwide killing many people and sickened thousands of people. SARS is thought to be caused by a new form of the coronavirus, a cause of the common cold.

Livestock in southern China may be the source of the virus sources close to the World Health Organisation (WHO). WHO is working on a theory that the virus has its source in farm animals in southern China. 'In some areas in Guangdong province in southern China, people just live neck to jaw with animals - pigs, chickens, ducks are everywhere,' the source said. Scientists have already ruled out a link between SARS and bird flu, also a viral disease highly contagious to chickens, ducks, turkeys and other birds but not dangerous to other animals and humans.

Researchers are moving ahead on that assumption. If it turns out that some other virus is at work, those researchers will have to start again, cautioned Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. Even under the best-case scenario a vaccine is at least a year away, he said.

Simplify Your Diet



Unhealthy lifestyle, lack of exercise and bad eating habits among Malaysians are a growing concern among the health professionals. Teenagers are among those who need to make adjustments to their diet. Are you eating healthy? What are components of a healthy diet?

An easy guide is the Food Pyramid. The Food Pyramid guide is an outline of what to eat each day. It's not a rigid prescription but a general guide that lets you choose a healthful diet that's right for you. The Food Pyramid calls for eating a variety of foods to get the nutrients you need and at the same time the right amount of calories to maintain healthy weight.

Using the Food Pyramid help you eat better every day. See the illustration above. Briefly, you ought to have plenty of breads, cereals, rice, pasta, vegetables, and fruits. Add 2-3 servings from the milk group and 2-3 servings from the meat group. Remember to go easy on fats, oils, and sweets, the foods in the small tip of the Food Pyramid.

Many of us tend to overeat during festive celebrations, weddings, birthday celebrations, family get-togethers and holidays. How can you avoid gorging yourself during these occasions? Will you change or modify your eating habits during these occasions? If so, how? What advice about diets can you give your family and friends to help them avoid overeating during the holidays? Which do you think are the easiest to follow? Why? Which would be the most difficult? Why?

Something to Think About

* What does a healthy diet include?
* Explain the purpose of complex carbohydrates.
* What role should fats play in a teen's diet?
* Why is calcium so important for teens?
* How many servings of fruits and vegetables should people eat daily?
* What constitutes a serving?
* How have nutrition standards changed since the days of your grandparents?
* Explain why we need new standards in diet.

National Water Festival Ends in May

The National Water Festival Month celebrations which began in April ends on May 10. The festival held at Lumut, Manjung, Sungai Kerian, Parit Buntar, Kuala Terengganu will end in Kuala Perlis, Perlis from May 8 to 10.

Be Thankful, Says DPM

Muslims in the country should be thankful that they can continue to enjoy peace while several other Muslim countries are at war, said Acting Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on April 4 in Penang.

He said Muslims should practice the teachings of Islam including strengthening solidarity and cooperation among themselves to show gratitude for God's blessing. 'In this country, we can pray in comfort and safety although other countries are facing war, and this is one of God's blessing upon us,' he said in his speech after Friday prayers at the Teluk Bahang Mosque, here.

Indonesia's Plan on Anti-Bioterrorism

In a move to check anti-terrorism in the country the Indonesian government plans to establish an anti-bioterrorism institution. The institution will have the authority to check all laboratories with the potential to make biological weapons.

Concepts not Answers

Researchers of a four-year study of American classes advised teachers to help students understand the concepts of math instead of just how to solve a math problem. James Stigler, chief executive officer of LessonLab, which conducted the study for the Department of Education says teachers are more focused on getting the answers, and less on teaching students conceptual thinking.

However, the study says there is no single correct way to teach math.

Iraq War Affects Us, too

The war in Iraq affects all countries around the world, including Malaysia. A weak global economy is expected to follow after the war ends. The Malaysian government will implement action plans to protect Malaysia from the unstable external environment. This is also to ensure that the country's economy would see sustained growth this year."

E-Wastes Pollute Earth

U.S. technology companies are slow to reduce 'e-wastes', say a report. The research by the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition say 'e-waste' include lead, polyvinyl chloride and other hazardous materials used in computer manufacturing.

The Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition and another group reported last year that as much as 80 percent of electronic waste collected for recycling in the United States was shipped to Asia, mainly China, India and Pakistan - exposing migrant workers to several poisons - despite a 1994 convention banning the export of hazardous waste from rich to poor countries.

Environmentalists also worry that with the popularity of new liquid crystal display technology, which is sharper and more energy efficient than traditional cathode ray tube monitors, an increasing number of old monitors are ending up in the trash.

The National Safety Council estimates the United States will be awash in 500 million defunct computers and monitors by 2007.

Asian Economy Affected

The outbreak in Asia of a deadly pneumonia-like virus, Sars, is expected to have a major impact on the region's economies. Independent Strategy, a research group in Hong Kong says many countries in Asia will go back into recession.

The outbreak in Asia of a deadly pneumonia-like virus, Sars, is expected to have a major impact on the region's economies. Independent Strategy, a research group says many countries in Asia will go back into recession.

Tourism, restaurants and shopping are among some of the areas that will be affected. It says the economy is going to decline significantly over the next six months at least. It says the economy is going to decline significantly over the next six months at least.

US Unemployment Rate Up

U.S. companies slashed 108,000 jobs in March as war in Iraq battered the economy at home. The unemployment rate held at 5.8 percent after thousands of job seekers gave up and dropped out of the work pool. Job cuts were widespread. That sparked worries among economists who said that a quick end to the war couldn't even resuscitate the jobs market, which is expected to worsen in coming months.

Egyptian Find

A 5,000-year-old Egyptian coffin with a skeleton inside was found in the desert near the Sakkara pyramids near Cairo. The skeleton is believed to be the skeleton of one of the officials under Egypt's 1st Dynasty.

Cancer to soar, predicts WHO

The World Health Organisation predicts of a 50 per cent jump in global cancer rates in the next 20 years.

Worldwide cancer rates could increase from 10 million cases a year to 15 million by 2020, said WHO's World Cancer Report, published yesterday. The report which found that smoking remained the biggest cause of cancer, suggested a third of the cases could be prevented if more people adopted healthy lifestyles. Once considered a Western disease, cancer now affects more people in the developing world than in industrialised nations.

The report, by the International Agency for Research on Cancer, part of the WHO, calls for action to stem smoking, improve diet and physical activity and to prevent infections. Prevention measures were 'amazingly simple', the report said. Eating a higher intake of fruit and vegetables, getting a proper diet, moderating your alcohol intake and cutting out the cigarettes are the keys not only to avoiding cancer but to living longer generally.

Stones Hold 1st-Ever Concert in India

More than 30,000 screaming fans rocked and swayed as the Rolling Stones held their first-ever concert in India in April. Crowds of fans thronged the southern Indian city of Bangalore hours before the show, part of the band's "40 Licks" tour.

Teen Heiress Inherits Family Billions

One of the world's richest people is an 18-year-old, Athina Roussel. Athina is the granddaughter of the late Greek shipping tycoon Aristotle Onassis. Athina's wealth is an estimated US$2.7 billion.

She rides horses and trains regularly in Brussels hoping to compete for Greece in the 2004 Athens Olympics. Athina wants to devote most of her wealth to charity projects and spend US$20 million setting up a horse-breeding farm.

Something to Do

1. Why do you think news reports often use the present tense?
2. How is spoken language different from written language? Pick a news item from above and provide a setting whereby you are talking to someone about the news.

ANSWERS

Literature Component, page 3

1. a) B b) B

2. Mathilde Loisel explained how hard life had been as it took her ten years to pay for the new necklace. Upon hearing this, Madame Forrestier told Mathilde that her necklace is a fake and it was only worth five hundred francs.

English Through Songs, page 8

1. The sun is one of our planets.
2. It is fun learning English with QUEST.
3. Tears rolled down her cheeks when she heard she failed her exam.
4. My heart leapt with joy when I heard I passed my exam.
5. Drinking wine is bad for health.
6. We were drenched in sweat after the games.
7. I waited for an hour for the bus.
8. I don't know why the bus is late today.
9. Every day I do my homework before I watch the television.
10. The children were catching butterflies in the park.
11. My father's advice to study hard is always on my mind.
12. My mother held my hand as we crossed the road.
13. She was in ecstasy when she met her favourite pop star.
14. Calcium is needed for healthy bones.
15. Something has to be done to stop the roof from leaking.
16. My love for my parents is endless.
17. My heart felt empty when my best friend left for overseas.
18. It is dangerous to walk alone at night.
19. Come on! Let's go.
20. Did you know he left the town yesterday?

Idioms, page 9

1. In the event of an emergency it is important to **keep one's head**.
2. My residential school is a real **a home from home**.
3. News of the attack by the enemies **spread like wildfire**.
4. As soon as the smugglers **got wind of** a police raid they fled the area.
5. The students **came down with** food poisoning one after the other.
6. The King paid **a flying visit** to the flood-stricken village.
7. You always get **a square deal** in Pak Amin's shop.
8. Many companies had to **lay off** its workers because of the war.
9. It is **anybody's guess** who will win the war.
10. He's been interested in aircraft ever since he was **knee-high to a grasshopper**.

That's Not Right-Lah! page 10

1. Why isn't there any water coming from the tap?
2. He was hospitalised.
3. Can I come with you to library?
4. Leave me alone.
5. Did the noise frighten you?
6. The police will find him.
7. I have not seen you for more than a month. Where have you been?
8. When did you arrive?
9. He has not spoken to me for three weeks.
10. I bought one just like yours a month ago.
11. We visited Pulau Langkawi last month.
12. She has no children.
13. My neighbours have moved to Klang.
14. Who is that teacher?
15. We are not lost, are we?
16. You don't believe me, do you?
17. Where do you live?
18. Mine is also the same.
19. Why do you like that?
20. I told you cannot go.

Sounder, page 12

1 The dog
2 The boy's father
3 Three
4 Winter because the words 'frozen earth'
5 faithful, obedient, loyal, courageous, strong, determined
6 cruel, harsh, brutal, angry

It Sounds Like, page 14

a won
b great
c blue
d wood
e whey
f coarse
g weight
h herd
i been
j for
k write
l bee
m new
n nought

It's Hidden! page 14

a escape
b chocolate
c entangled
d intricate
e companion
f pyjamas
g activity
h education
i comprehension
j personal
k useless
l breaking
m climbed
n sandshoe

Compound Words, page 14

a. jetski
b. tabletop
c. moonstone
d. waterfall
e. beekeeper
f. footnote
g. heartsick
h. makeover
i. screwdiver
j. something
k. cockpit
l. notebook
m. cobweb
n. stalemate

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2. Hizreen Hashim
   SMK Convent Sitiawan, Perak
3. Ooi Su Lin
   SMK Convent, Taiping
4. Hana Nabilah Azman
   SMK Sultan Ahmad Syah, Pahang
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2. Shazwani Zaini Fadzil, Perak
3. Law Li Sheng
   SMK Bahang, Penampang, Sabah
4. Sathia Bama
   SMK Khai Mun, Pahang
5. Siti Nur Azrin Ngah
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8. Duxburry AK Dix
   SM Sains Kuching, Sarawak
9. Hafizah Haris
   SMU(A) Maahad Muhammadi (P) Kelantan
10. Sachinathan
    SM St John, KL

WRITE SOMETHING FUNNY

Fun stickers go to:
Emmuel Yee
Keningau,Sabah

A Big Thank You to All Contest-ants

CROSSWORD

The FIVE winners who will each receive a YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION OF QUEST are:

1. Stuart Chin
   SM Swasta Seri Insan, Sabah
2. Shan Tao High School, Sabah
3. Gopinath Perumal
   SMK Tinggi Kajang, Selangor
4. Rachel Hsieh
   Kian Kok Middle School, Sabah
5. Noor Hidayatul Adha
   SM Teknik Gerik, Perak

A Complimentary Copy of QUEST goes to:

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   SMKDHK KKB, Selangor
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   SMUA Darul Anuar, Kelantan
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   SMK Convent Kajang, Selangor
9. Lim Niam Ru
   Chung Hwa Independent High School, Selangor
10. Chia Loo Wee
    SMJK Yu Hua, Kajang, Selangor

ENTERTAINMENT QUIZ ★

So you think you know everything about the world of entertainment? Let's see if you have been keeping abreast of what's happening in the entertainment world.

1. Who is this actress in the Harry Potter film?
   a. Anna Watson
   b. Emma Watson
   c. Angelina Watson

1

2. Aaron Charles Carter was born on1987,
   a. December 14
   b. December 25
   c. December 7

2

3. This boy band is:
   a. Take That
   b. Take 5
   c. Take Away

3

4. This actor rose to fame in:
   b. Harry Potter
   b. Sixth Sense
   c. The Lion King

4

Check your answers and score here.

1. Emma Watson
2. December 7
3. Take 5
4. Sixth Sense

Give 10 marks for each correct answer. Grade yourself.

Farhana Nur Maisarah Fazil *of SMS Raja Tun Azlan Shah, Taiping, Perak would like to share this story with you...*

Friends *for* Eternity

Shizue was with her best friend, Sara. They were talking about how great it was to be friends and recalled unforgettable moments of their friendship. Sara suddenly said, 'Do you remember ...?' and Shizue's heart leapt. Their hearts went out to each other and they hugged.

Of course I remember. How could I not? I remember it all too vividly. It started one very fateful day. It was a gloomy evening. There were lightnings and the clouds were so dark, perfectly matching my mood. The rain was yet to come.

I was about to break down. Then the rain started. Usually the rhythm it produces calms my nerves but now, all I heard were heavy drops falling on the roof. I broke down, thinking about the fight I had with my best friend. It was anything but usual. Sara was mad at me.

The misunderstanding was unbearable, especially considering I was the innocent victim. She is never wrong. That's what she always makes me think. Everytime there is a situation, she made me sound guilty and I have to take the blame. But that didn't fade our friendship. It just got stronger. Sometimes I loathed my too considerate personality but I guess that's my nature. To get rid of my anger I usually go to the garden and write on the sand with my fingers 'My best friend is mad at me', then watch the wind blow it away. Whatever anger I feel would be replaced by calm. Today, I wrote 'My best friend shouted at me' but there was no relief. I felt so alone.

I felt distracted after the incident. Sara didn't come to school the next few days. Then when she did, she seemed so nonchalant towards me. My heart was pounding when I crossed the road to approach. It was begging me to turn away but I couldn't. Better an ending with pain than pain without end.

Then it happened. A car was coming fast I didn't even notice it. Sara rushed to pull me away. We suffered some minor bruises. I invited Sara to my garden. There I carved on a stone, 'TODAY MY BEST FRIEND SAVED MY LIFE'. That will last an eternity.

Lau Kheng Joe
SMJK (C) Chung Hwa, Kelantan

The Country Life

The sky is getting brighter. A sudden crow from a cock breaks the silence. Everyone wake up from their long sleep and prepare to face a new day.

The cold refreshing air in the countryside puts everyone in a good mood. Hardworking farmers begin to start work at the paddy-field. Birds look for food to feed their hungry chicks.

In a pond, fishes swim happily and dragonflies fly gracefully on the water surface. Frogs croak noisily on the waterlilies.

In the afternoon the sun shines brightly. Even the puddles of water have dried out. It is so hot that the farmers have to take a rest.

At dusk, the descending sun turn the sky into golden red. It is a sign showing it is the end of the day. People and animals get ready to sleep.

CLEAR WATER

*by **Marianne Darshini Ponniah**, S.M.K Tinggi Segamat, Johor.*

I stood there aimlessly just like everyone else except without clear water rolling down my cheeks. Everyone had a handkerchief all wet and soaking while mine was dry! Totally dry! I had no idea what I was doing there but I tried my best to make the clear water roll down my cheeks too, but failed.

I stood beside my mother, holding on tight to her. I could see my grandmother lying on a bed with a white sheet covered until her shoulders. She wasn't moving or talking. I had no idea what had happened to her! Questions kept striking my mind. I was afraid. Worried.Blank!

I looked at my mother, trying to find out what was actually going on in that room. But she kept flowing clear water down her cheeks. I actually wondered what they were.Why didn't I have clear water? Didn't anyone realise that something was wrong with me? What happened to 'my' clear water?

I walked closer to grandma and touched her hand. She opened her palm and I drew my fingers in between hers. She held on tight and said, 'Do not worry my boy,' she said, 'Just remember, no matter what happens, you'll always be in my heart,' she continued.

'Yes grandma. But what's happened to you? Why are you lying here? You should be at home sitting on your easy-chair. Why grandma?' I kept asking her. 'Well, grandma just decided to have a change for a while. Don't worry. Grandma will be back in no time,' she said. Everyone in the room stared at us.

I could see wires and tubes fixed to her chest, medicine on the table and all sorts of unrecognisable things.They were scary. I lay my head on my

grandma's bed, very close to her. I knew something was going to happen although I didn't want it to happen. Suddenly, I heard a sound from one of the machines. Immediately, a doctor came in.

Other doctors surrounded grandma and I was pushed away from her. My mum pulled me towards her and carried me in her arms. I was scared.

After a while, the doctor shook his head. I knew grandma was gone, forever! "No! Grandma! Don't leave me! No...!" I screamed. It was then when I felt something running down my cheeks. I touched it and realised it was clear water.

A New Future for Afghan Children Begins...

Twenty-three years of war had left people in Afghanistan in poverty, without education, poor health and without a future. More than 7,000 schools had been seriously damaged during twenty years of Soviet occupation, civil war and Taliban rule. Under the Taliban rule, girls were banished from schools and education was not a priority for boys.

On March 23, 2003, some 5.8 million boys and girls started school. For some of them, especially girls, it would be the first time they would be going to school. They would learn human rights, rights of women, information technology and computer technology, among other subjects.

Afghan Education Minister Yunus Qanooni said Afghan's illiterate population desperately needed education. He said the books of the old system were got rid and new important things such as computers brought into education. Although Afghan has to cope with poverty, schools, chairs and books will be provided for Afghan children.

Some help is provided by outside humanitarian groups. A French aid group Enfants du Monde, has been running a special centre for 300 children deprived of education in a poor district in Kabul, the country's capital. The centre gives children the chance to catch up on subjects. The centre also gives them a chance to play with other children. Social interaction is a big part of the programme in effort to get the children overcome the mental trauma of their war past. They learn as they play, expressing themselves the right to freedom - denied to them so long.

Something to Discuss

- How are children's future affected by harsh rulers and wars?
- Why do children need proper education?
- What happens to children who do not have the opportunity to go to school?
- What happens to them when they grow up?

Reply to last issue's problems

Dear Ayesha,
Have you tried explaining to J that you love Q? If you did and he didn't get the message, tell him that if he ever disturbs you, you wouldn't be nice to him.

As for Q, ask a friend's help to arrange a meeting between you two. Or, ask him to meet him yourself. Tell him that you love him and you need to explain about the misunderstanding. Tell him, you need Q to protect you from people like J. If he doesn't believe you, he's not worth your love.

PIsces

Dear Crying Girl,
I am so sorry to hear that you've lost your eldest sister, but life's like that. There's no life without death. After she passed away, she is in a place better than here. Don't you think so? Yes, it hurts to lose someone who is so dear in the family. Time will heal the pain. Convince your parents and your brother-in-law that your sister and her little baby are near to God. I'm sure that your sister wouldn't want them to be sad when she is in such a great place. May God bless your sister's soul and may she rest in peace.

Pisces

Dear Crying Girl,
I'm sorry about your loss, but do you know, if your sister could talk to you, she would say that her passing is not a sad thing for her - only for you and your family. Because now she lives in the presence of God and that is the most beautiful place where one ought to be. Spend some time with your family and your brother-in-law. Tell them to hold on to all the good times you all have had with your sister. It might help you to grieve. May God bless you and may His Angels accompany you and your family.

Mystery Man

Come and open your eyes Girl! Show some Girl-Power! Next time if anybody dumps you again, just say 'Okay, I'm fine with it' that's all,they will really wonder how you stand it, and think about it AND THEN they MIGHT go back to you, but once they do, DON'T give them that chance, never do that.

And if your formal boyfriend does want you back, it depends you know, if you still love him lots, tell him you'll think about it and then go back with him in after a day or 2. If you don't love him anymore, then don't, don't be with them again when you don't feel like to, doing things is not half-heartedly. Life is not all perfect. You should be ready for it. We are still young.

The Dudette

Dear Girl and Gurl,
Breaking up with your boyfriends hurt. I've been through it and know exactly how you feel. I realised that if I really loved him. I want the best for him. True love waits. This is a poem for you two:
When you love someone
Set him free
If he comes back, he's yours
If he doesn't
It was never meant to be'
So, whatever you do, have faith in God.

Pearly Orange

Dear Worried Sick,
Although you are a dude, that is not normal for not saying sorry especially when you know that you are wrong. As egoistic as you are, try to find courage to apologise. If you really love her, talk to her. Girls need to be persuaded. Last year both of you got along. What happened? Why have you been arguing so often? Find out. If there is anyone that can help you, it is yourself.

Dear Worried Sick,
You must learn to apologise whenever you are wrong. That is what love is all about, to be sensitive to each other's feelings, understanding, unselfish and so on. Read more self-improvement books to learn not to be egoistic. Learn from your mistakes. Good luck.

Guiding Light

E-mail your replies or problems to: leelagov @ tm.net.my
or write to: **Quest Publications** (Teenfile)
PO Box 8436, Kelana jaya Post Office, 46790 Petaling Jaya, Selangor

I'm **Azhan Shakir bin Mahmud** from Ma'ahad Muhammadi Lelaki, Kota Bharu. My special message goes to all my friends especially Mat Nor, Keme, Pok Loh, Hadi, my ex-classmate who have moved out to other school in order to search 'light' in their study (Kirin, Afwe, Hafiz, Pok ta), students 4 Sckf and also all SMU candidates 2002 in my college. My message is 'Always remember Allah in all situations'.

I am **Jo Ann** from SM All Saints, Sabah. I would like to send my dedications to all 1 Bakawali students, especially Michelle, all Quest readers, and to everyone out there who knows me. My message is 'Always be prepared for everything. Good luck in whatever you do'.

I, **Mohd Najib Ramlan**, want to dedicate this message to my classmate, 4 Kindi in MRSM PDRM, Kulim, Kedah. I hope you all will achieve a good result for SPM 2003. To my family and Syazwani: I hope you all are in a pink of health always.

I am **Mohd Khairul Fahmi B Ramli** from SMU(A) Maahad Muhammadi (L). I would like to send my dedications to: My lovely parents, classmates of 4Sckf, teachers, best friends Ayie, Pok Pan, Leman, Wah, Dali, Mak Iming and all students of Maahad (L). My message is 'Your every wish will be granted. Strive for the best'

Hello everyone! I am **Parminderjit Kaur** from SMK St.Bernadette Convent Batu Gajah, Perak. I would like to wish A very happy new year to my parents, friends Sunil, Roopi, Rina, Rita, Reshmin, Nisha, Manraaj, Simran, Kiran, Davin, Uncle Kuldip and Gurmith, Aunty Trhipet, Billie and Harjeet and all the Convent students and teachers. My last message is 'Study hard and smile always.'

I am **Muhammad Hizami Mustafa** from SMK Agama Arau, Perlis. I would like to send my dedications to all my schoolmates, Redzuan, Rohisyam, Hafiizh, Naem, Rahman, Nasrul, Fusani, Rafhanah, my favourite teachers, Pn Nazimah, Sir Rofiee, Tn Hj Abd Hadi, Razi Rafiq, Sharmizi (SMK Sultan Abdul Halim), Am, Khuzairi and NurIliani Bte Mat Isa from SMK Derma. My message is 'Be the best among the best. Always remember Allah in whatever you do'.

I'm **Angel Tiwol** from SMK Bahang, Penampang. I would like to send dedication to all my friend especially Juika, Priscilla, Sherly Anne, Blanche, Mc Call, Mellisa, Hana and Cindra. My old friend Sherly, Randall and those who know me. My message is 'Remember me always and may God bless you all'

I am **Noryatimah b.Ramdzan** from Sekolah Agama Menengah Muhammadiyyah Batu 40 Sabak Bernam, Selangor. I would like to send my dedication to my family, my best friend A'a, Hawa, Diela, Zurah, Mat, Ana, Yun, Raja, Mied and my classmates of 4 Ibnu Khaldun. My message is 'Good luck for your exam. Never give up. Try your Best.'

I am **Mohd Azlan** from Sekolah Menengah Sains Kuching. I would like to send my dedications to my beloved parents, all my friend especially Richie, Eka (the rock), Qka and Rolance. My message is 'Don't give up and target A's for PMR 2003'.

I am **Yusuf** from SM Teknik Matang. I would like to send my dedication to all my friend at SM Sains Kuching, Andy Kimin, Alan, Abang Pai, Wan Hanif, my teachers at SM Sains Kch,and my new friend too.My message is 'Don't forget me. Be happy always.May God bless you all.'

I am **Hemashini Sivanesan** from SMK Convent Sitiawan, Perak. I would like to send my dedications to my beloved parents, siblings, teachers, my friends Nurzatul Azhani (MRSM Perlis), Jesrin Kaur, Anuri, Nisha and all SPM and PMR candidates of 2003. I wish you all the best. Good luck in everything you do. Love you all.

Hola! I am **Faten Salma Adnan** from SMU (A) Amir Indra Petra, Kelantan. I would like to send my dedications to my family, my best friends (Shahida, Niza and Suhada), all old friends, my classmate, teachers and all PMRU candidates. I wish you all the best in PMRU 2003. Let's do our best 'cos we are the best.

I am **Tie** from MRSM Kuala Berang, Terengganu. I would like to send my dedications to: Na, Azhieeda, Afiqah, Fiezah, Shida, all Dynamicians and teachers, Leda, Fauzi, Faizal and Ahmad Z'din. My message is I love you all. May Allah bless us.

I am **Siti Maisarah** from MRSM Kuala Berang, Terengganu. I would like to send my dedications to:my family, Razif, Emran, Na, Shuhada, Wanie, Ba, Nadia, Wan Noraini, Mahdini and all teachers in SMAKH. My message is 'I love you all. Be happy in whatever you do!'

I'm **Huda Faris** from Kolej Islam Sultan Alam Shah (KISAS). I'd like to send my dedications to: my beloved parents, big sister, Najeeb Nisrin (our relationship is precious), little sisters Nadiah, Aisyah, Jannah and Zahidah (thanks for walking in the rain with me), my friends Ziana, K.Yuni, K.Aiman, 9/A ASPURI dormmates and ex-al amin students. My message is: Life is not a breeze, for varied obstacles awaits us...but yet, never forget to reminisce each wonderful moment of it! I miss u all...

Assalamualaikum, I am **Siti Hadijah Jamil** from SMK Tenang, Labis. I would like to send my dedications to my family, teachers and all the Form 3S2 students of 2003, especially Farid, Aishah, Mas, Fauziah, Hairani, Fitriyah, Asyikin and everyone who know me. My message is 'Good luck in the coming exam. I love you all'.

Assalamualaikum, I am **Masnizan bt Muhammed** from SMK Tenang, Labis. I would like to send my dedications to my family, teachers and all the Form 3S2 students of 2003, especially Syafiq Kamal, Awal, Fiza, Ejad, Anis, Fareha, As Zilla and all my friends. My message is 'I wish you all the best of luck in everything you do'.

Hi, I am **Siti Khairunnisa** from SMK Tenang, Labis, Johor. I would like to send my dedications to my best friends, Maslia, Shazalia, Raffiza, my brother Mohd. Puad at SMS, Johor and all the students of 3S2. My message is 'Have a nice day and good luck in the coming PMR'.

Assalammualaikum. I am **Hasniza bt. Jamali** from SMK Tenang, Labis. I would like to send my dedications to my beloved parents, my pretty sister, my cute younger brother, my handsome brothers Haizul (Pemanis), Fauzi and Nazri (Kemedak), my best friends especially Syatul, Faiq, Dollah, Miqdam, Wen, Ain Salleh and all my classmates is 2S1,all teachers in my school, and all the students. My message is May God bless you. I love you all!!!

I am **Angel** from SMK. Bahang, Penampang. I would like to send my dedications to my special friend Jessica, Priscilla, Kenny, Juika, Sherly anne and Hana, my old friend Sherly, Aloysia, Randall, Diana and Rahel.And my Masssege is 'You are always in my mind.Study hard for our coming PMR and smile always'.

Hi! I'm **Nur Amirah Amir** from SM Sains Pasir Puteh. Iwould liketo send my dedication to my classmates 2A (2002), my friends especially Mila, Mc'Leen, Ooda, Mc'yuh, Fezi, Mc'sue, Wanie, Fadha, C-Kien, teachers and lastly but not least all PMR candidates of 2003. I wish you all the best .Good luck in everything you do.

Hi! I'm **Nurul Syazlin Izawati bt. Musa** from SM Sains Pasir Puteh. I would like to dedicate to my classmates 2A (2002). My friends x-specially Ooda, Amy, Mila, Fazzy, mc'Yus, mc'Sue, Wanie, Shikin, Fadha, teachers and last but not least, all PMR candidates of 2003. I wish you all the best and good luck whatever you do. Fantasy forever! See you!

Hola Amigo! I'm **Kavita Chellathurai** from SMK Sultan Abdul Jalil, Kluang, Johor. My special message goes to my parents, my lovely sisters Nagadevi and Yogeswary, my friends Nithiyah and Muga. 'Love makes the world go round. Thanks for evrything. I love you all. Adios.

I am **Nurul Farazila** from SMK Tenang, Labis, Johor. I would like to send my dedications to my family, Miss Vasugy and all students of Form 5 Perdangangan 2003, especially Yati, Zubaidah, Syidah, Fiza, Lina, Miva, May, Dayah, Jun, Ejah, and Evniza. My message is 'Always remember Allah in all situations. Good luck in SPM 2003.

I am **Fatieqa Lukman** from SMU (A) Maahad Muhammadi Perempuan, Kota Bharu. My special message is for my buddy, Solleh (P. Belang). Good luck in SPM 2003. To my lovely friends Syu, Tuti, Asiah, Yeen, Atun, Izzah, Aini, Fathy, fairus, Wawa, Nor, Mirah, Suha and Yuni 'Let's do our best in SMU and SPM 03. I'll always love you all forever. Thank you.

PENPALS

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85010 Buloh Kasap, Segamat
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Friends, Music, Reading

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Reading, Friends, cartoons

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Helene Liew (G), 17.10.87
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Jln Matang,
93050 Kuching, Sarawak
Reading, Games, Sports

Exercises

Have you got a penpal? So you really think you know all about your penpal? Let's see how well you know about him or her in this fun exercise. If you have got more than one penpal, choose the one you think you know best.

1. List five facts about your penpal.
2. What do you know about the town, state or country where your pen pal is from?
3. List five facts about the place your penpal is from.
4. How would you describe yourself?
5. List ways that you can communicate and learn about others.

BACKCHAT

Dear Readers,

How are you getting on with your studies? We hope you have settled in well in your new class and doing just fine. Listen to your teachers who are working very hard to impart knowledge you need in your future. Help your friends if they don't understand something but you do.

You must be reading all about the disturbing conditions worldwide. Don't worry too much about them. Just focus on your studies. Be thankful to God for the peaceful environment you are living in - and give your parents a big hug for taking care of you, okay?

Until the next issue, happy learning!

The Editor

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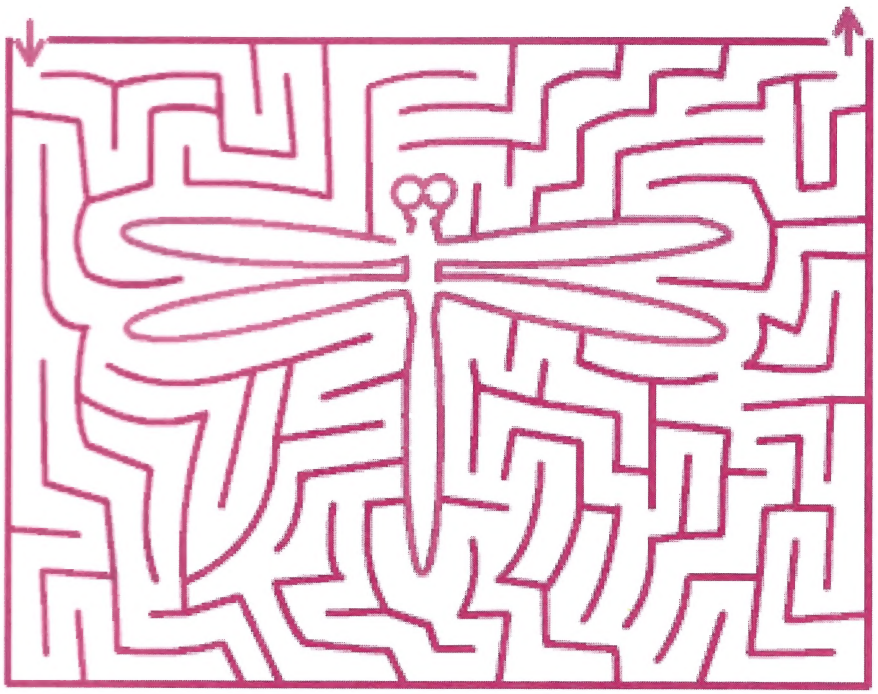
Dragonfly Maze

Find your way around the dragonfly maze.

Start here.

End here.



Fall, leaves, fall'

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day

Emily Jane Brontë